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Grammar Mini Lesson Assignment

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Preposition: “A preposition links nouns, pronouns, and phrases to other words in a sentence. The word of phrase that the preposition introduces is called the object of the preposition. A preposition usually indicates the spatial, temporal, or logical relationship of its object to the rest of the sentence as in the following examples:

The book is **on** the table.

The book is **beneath** the table.

The book is leaning **against** the table.

The book is **beside** the table.

She held the book **over** the table.

She read the book **during** class.

In each of the preceding sentences, a preposition locates the noun "book" in space or in time.”[[1]](#footnote-1)

Grade Level Targeted: Any grade level can be targeted with this lesson, however this lesson may be more beneficial to grades nine and ten when good grammar habits become essential to building a better foundation for writing in later grades. A variety of levels can also be targeted with this lesson, including workplace, applied, and academic streams.

Common Errors and Corrections: Errors include (but are not limited to) the following:

1) Using extra prepositions when the meaning of the sentence is clear without them. Example:

Correct: “Take the coat off the hanger.”

Incorrect: “Take the coat off of the hanger.”

2) *Of* should never be used in place of *have.* Example:

Correct: “I should have done it.”

Incorrect: “I should of done it.”

3) Between refers to two. Among refers to three or more. Example:

Correct: “Divide the money between the two of you.”

Incorrect: “Divide the money among the two of you.”[[2]](#footnote-2)

Activity: Students will be provided with a list of prepositions and a list of sentences with “fill in the blanks.” Students must select the correct preposition from the list and insert it into the corresponding blank for each sentence. Prepositions may be used more than once. An answer key will be provided for teacher usage.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ /17 Marks

Using Prepositions...Test Your Skills

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In the box is a list of prepositions. You must insert the correct preposition into the blanks of the following sentences. Each preposition must be used once.

above behind between of over with

across below from on past without

after beside into out underneath

1) The plane flew \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the mountains and deep \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the valleys.

2) Adam loved to play baseball \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ school \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his friends.

3) Jane lost her wallet, so she was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ her money and identification cards.

4) The tomatoes were rotting, so I threw them \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

5) Birds \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a feather flock together.

6) Mom said we could split the candy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the two of us.

7) The garbage bags are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the sink, and the dumpster is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the store in the alley.

8) The gifts \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the door were labelled “To Vanessa \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mom and Dad.”

9) David’s favourite album is “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Universe” by the Beatles.

10) “I told you not to bother me when I am talking \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the phone.”

11) Catherine’s outfit was totally \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the top.

12) If you have driven \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hurontario Street, then you have gone too far.

13) It was so cold outside that the thermometer read 15 degrees Celsius \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ zero.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ /17 Marks

Using Prepositions...Test Your Skills

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In the box is a list of prepositions. You must insert the correct preposition into the blanks of the following sentences. Each preposition must be used once.

above behind between of over with

across below from on past without

after beside into out underneath

1) The plane flew above the mountains and deep into the valleys.

2) Adam loved to play baseball after school with his friends.

3) Jane lost her wallet, so she was without her money and identification cards.

4) The tomatoes were rotting, so I threw them out.

5) Birds of a feather flock together.

6) Rosalie said we could split the candy between the two of us.

7) The garbage bags are underneath the sink, and the dumpster is behind the store in the alley.

8) The gifts beside the door were labelled “To Vanessa From Mom and Dad.”

9) David’s favourite song is “Across the Universe” by the Beatles.

10) “I told you not to bother me when I am talking on the phone.”

11) Catherine’s outfit was totally over the top.

12) If you have driven past Hurontario Street, then you have gone too far.

13) It was so cold outside that the thermometer read 15 degrees Celsius below zero.

1. MacFadyen, Heather. (2012). What is a Preposition? University of Ottawa The Writing Centre. Retrieved April 10, 2012 from the World Wide Web: <http://www.writingcentre.uottawa.ca/hypergrammar/preposit.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Straus, Jane. (2012). Problems with Prepositions. Grammar Book. Retrieved April 10, 2012 from the World Wide Web: <http://www.grammarbook.com/grammar/probPrep.asp> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)